

for his company. Days were made a little brighter by mom's daily letters from home.

Fran's homecoming in 1970 darkened by the protestors of the Vietnam War at the airport was further darkened by the death of his father on the night of his return.

Moving ever forward, a determined Fran went on to work for the United Postal Service, a job he would hold for forty years. Fran worked equally as hard to capture the heart of his true love, Audrey Foley. Married in 1972, the soul mates were blessed with 2 children, Frannie and Jennifer, whom they raised on the family land nicknamed "Drummondville" where they were fortunate enough to build their own home. Summer vacations then and now are spent enjoying the sunny beaches of Ocean City, only now Fran and Audrey enjoy the company of their grandchildren, Aiden, Morgan, Ashley, Alley and Leighton.

Physically active and fit throughout his adult years, Fran played softball in the mens Lower Bucks league. Fran also proved to be Bucks County's own Jack La Lanne in fitness and weight lifting.

Ever a good Catholic boy, Fran can be found at daily mass at his home parish of Our Lady of Grace thanking God for the blessings of his life. He spends his Sundays as an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion delivering to the residents of Langhorne Manor Nursing Home.

A tireless advocate for Veterans and their needs, Fran serves as the Jr. Vice Commander for Disabled Veterans and is a very active member of the American Legion for the Veterans of foreign wars. He personally drives veterans to and from their doctor and hospital appointments, the Veterans Administration building or wherever they may need to go. In addition to taking the Veterans where they need to go, he also lends a hand with their home and auto repairs.

No task is too small or large when it comes to lending a helping hand for this Marine. One particular life changing incident during Fran's tour in Vietnam proved to be an extreme example of Fran's life's motto "Leave no man behind."

Huddled in a sandbag bunker somewhere in South Vietnam, Fran and fellow Marines were trying to stay alive and dry during a driving monsoon when the bunker collapsed due to the heavy rain fall. The collapse trapped Fran and his fellow soldiers who quickly became neck deep in mud and rain water. Refusing to give up, Fran crawled forward dragging a fellow soldier to safety. Holding the roof up, reportedly 2 tons of weight, soldiers were able to crawl to safety. Severely injured, unable to walk, knowing one fellow soldier remained in the crushed bunker, Fran crawled to a nearby bunker alerting them of his injured buddy. Helicopters transported the injured Marines to area hospitals never again to see each other. Birdman, Messler and other soldiers are alive today because of Fran Drummond's heroic actions. These men call Fran their savior and know without Fran's help they would not be alive today nor have families of their own. Ever faithful Fran knows that someone more powerful was with him that day, his savior Jesus Christ.

Fran's commitment to America and its citizens is a shining example of what makes this country strong. Raised by his parents, Marines themselves, Frannie has spent his entire life in service to his family and fellow man. He has

gone beyond the call of duty serving and protecting us all, indeed making the United States a safer and better place to live.

He is an honorable man, a leader, a marine, and our hero. Semper Fi.

INTRODUCING THE AIRLINE FIRST RESPONDER WORKPLACE FAIRNESS ACT

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 25, 2012

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of a bill that I'm introducing today, the Airline First Responder Workplace Fairness Act.

As the world's most geographically isolated archipelago, my home State of Hawaii is uniquely dependent upon air travel. It is the primary mode of transportation for people travelling to Hawaii from the U.S. mainland and other countries—as well as from island to island.

Flights to and from Hawaii are long. They cover vast expanses of ocean and cross several time zones. Because of these unique circumstances, I am acutely aware of the importance of ensuring that the members of every flight crew are rested and alert while doing their duties.

The legislation that I'm introducing today is designed to strengthen necessary workplace protections for flight attendants to enhance the safety of the travelling public.

This bill will help put in place common-sense policies to prevent flight attendant fatigue. These are the same types of policies that the Airline Safety and Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2010 required for pilots. That legislation passed the House by voice vote and the Senate by unanimous consent.

I believe passage of that legislation was a strong statement that Congress recognizes fatigue is clearly detrimental to air crews' ability to do their jobs safely—and to ensure the safety of the travelling public.

Unfortunately, the legislation and rulemaking that provided pilots with standards to guard against fatigue failed to include flight attendants.

However, Congress had previously enacted legislation that directed the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Civil Aerospace Medical Institute (CAMI) to study the topic of flight attendant fatigue. Funding to carry out this study has already been appropriated and the study has been completed. The results of the Civil Aerospace Medical Institute's study support the conclusion that action on this front is needed.

The study has found that "fatigue is a pervasive condition across the flight attendant community." Moreover, in June of 2007, the former international president of the Association of Flight Attendants, Patricia Friend, testified before the House Aviation Subcommittee on flight attendant fatigue. She indicated that since 9/11 the security responsibilities of flight attendants have greatly increased. Flight attendants must always be vigilant of what is going on in the aircraft cabin—and, as I'm sure we all know, fatigue seldom makes one more vigilant.

To underscore this point, I'd like to highlight a quote from a flight attendant's safety report

filed with NASA's Aviation Safety Reporting System. This person said, "I am filing this report because I was so tired I don't know if I made any mistakes. I know the trip was legal, but it wasn't humane." Another flight attendant reported that she had to pinch herself just to stay awake.

That quote should be a chilling call to arms. No one, in any occupation, should ever be so exhausted that they have to pinch themselves to stay awake, or be unable to remember if they've made a mistake at work. That type of environment is bad for workers and bad for the people who are depending on these workers to safely do their job.

My legislation will move past the study stage and take the next step toward ensuring the safety of both our in-flight workforce and the travelling public, while doing so in a collaborative manner that includes input from the aviation industry.

The bill does this by directing the Federal Aviation Administrator to establish an Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC) comprised of aviation industry stakeholders, labor representatives, and safety experts.

This ARC would then have 1 year to examine the findings and recommendations of the CAMI study, and develop its own recommendations for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to utilize in developing a final regulation. The FAA would then have 1 year to issue a notice of proposed rulemaking on the issue, and would then be required to issue a final rule 18 months after that.

I believe that this legislation sets out a fair, collaborative timeline for dealing with this important issue and ensuring the safety of both our in-flight workforce and the travelling public.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to see this important legislation advanced.

HONORING PASTOR PHILLIP L. FERRELL OF MT. HERMON BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 25, 2012

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor Phillip L. Ferrell, for his 19½ years of pastoral service to Mt. Hermon Baptist Church and for his eight years of service to the Ministers' Alliance of Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor and Vicinity, where he has served as President. As friends and family and community members gather on Friday, January 27, 2012, I would like to offer my appreciation for Pastor Ferrell's passion, dedication and commitment to Mt. Hermon Baptist Church and the Washtenaw County community.

Pastor Ferrell was born and raised in Ypsilanti, Michigan, and has spent a lifetime working to make our community a better place. His teachings and influence have not been reserved to the church; however, as he has accepted the call to action on several occasions, locally and across the State of Michigan. Pastor Ferrell served as a member of Governor Jennifer Granholm's Faith Based Advisory committee, as a member of the Ypsilanti Public Schools Emergency Crisis Team, as a Board Member of the local N.A.A.C.P., and as a member of the Washtenaw County Literacy Council. He has also shared his knowledge